



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/499,819	02/08/2000	Sivaramakrishna Kudritipudi	FORE-57	1785

7590

08/25/2005

Ansel M Schwartz
One Sterling Plaza
Suite 304
201 N Craig Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

EXAMINER

BLAIR, DOUGLAS B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2142

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/499,819

Applicant(s)

KUDITIPUDI ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas B. Blair

Art Unit

2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 May 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14, 17-23 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14, 17-23 and 25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Claims 14, 17-23 and 25 are currently pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 14, 17-23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable U.S. Patent Number 6,597,689 to Chiu et al. in view of the Fore-Switch-MIB Definitions paper.
4. As to claim 14, Chiu teaches a telecommunications system comprising: S switches, where S is an integer greater than or equal to 2, each switch having topology database with all configuration information of the S switches, any one switch providing all the configuration information for all of the S switches, wherein the switches send configuration information to each other, and the switches send and return queries to each other (col. 59, line 61-col. 60, line 11 and col. 61, lines 4-62); however, Chiu does not explicitly teach configuration including an IP address, a switch name, a software version, and a hardware type or the use of an SNMP query.

The Fore-Switch-MIB Definitions paper teaches configuration information including the name of the switch, a software version, and a hardware type (See MIB Groups).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Chiu regarding the topology discovery with the

Art Unit: 2142

teachings of the Fore-Switch-MIB Definitions paper regarding specific configuration information within the management information base because the teachings of Chiu mention the use of MIB modules such as the Fore-Switch MIB module.

5. As to claim 17, Chiu teaches a system wherein the switches attach a systems information group to a nodal information group to propagate the configuration information to the other switches in response to an SNMP query (col. 61, lines 4-62).

6. As to claim 18, Chiu teaches a system wherein switches have one or more logical nodes (col. 61, lines 4-62).

7. As to claim 19, Chiu teaches a system wherein the nodes form a first PNNI group (col. 61, lines 4-62).

8. As to claim 20, Chiu teaches a system including a plurality of PNNI groups (col. 61, lines 4-62).

9. As to claim 21, Chiu teaches a system wherein any node of the first PNNI group can provide all the configuration information for the first PNNI peer group (col. 61, lines 4-62).

10. As to claim 22, Chiu teaches a method for operating a telecommunications network comprising the steps of: placing configuration information of a first switch of the network into a topology database of the first switch, the configuration information; sending an SNMP query from the second switch to the first switch for configuration information in the topology database of the first switch (col. 59, line 61-col. 60, line 11); and propagating the configuration information of the first switch to a second switch of the network (col. 61, lines 4-62); however, Chiu does not explicitly teach configuration including the IP address, the name of the switch, a software version, and a hardware type.

The Fore-Switch-MIB Definitions paper teaches configuration information including the name of the switch, a software version, and a hardware type (See MIB Groups).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Chiu regarding the topology discovery with the teachings of the Fore-Switch-MIB Definitions paper regarding specific configuration information within the management information base because the teachings of Chiu mention the use of MIB modules such as the Fore-Switch MIB module.

11. As to claim 23, Chiu teaches a method wherein the first and second switches are in a PNNI peer group, and after the propagating step, there is the step of retrieving configuration information for all the switches in the PNNI peer group from the first switch (col. 61, lines 4-62).

12. As to claim 25, Chiu teaches a method wherein a propagating step includes the steps of attaching a system information group having the configuration information from the topology database of a first switch requested by a query to a nodal information group (col. 61, lines 4-62); and propagating the system information group attached to the nodal information group to the second switch (col. 61, lines 4-62).

Response to Arguments

13. Applicant's arguments filed 5/25/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant argues the following points: (a) There is no teaching or suggestion that any one switch provides all the configuration information for all the switches; (b) Chiu fails to suggest any type of query let alone an SNMP query that the switches send to each other to return retrieved configuration information each other; and (c) The applicant's cannot find the

Art Unit: 2142

specifically claimed configuration information from claim 14 including a name of the switch, an IP address, a software version of the switch and hardware type of the switch taught in FORE-Switch-MIB definition papers.

14. As to point (a), in the cited portion of Chiu, Chiu teaches that each switch is capable of storing the topology of the network in its database (col. 61, lines 27-41). For example, each switch running PNNI can store all of the topology information from the network in its database (col. 61, lines 31-36), therefore any one switch taught by Chiu is capable of providing all of the configuration information of the network.

15. As to point (b), as discussed in the cited portion of Chiu, Chiu teaches the use of SNMP agents. Chiu teaches an SNMP query that the switches send to each other to return retrieved configuration information from each other, specifically commands are sent to subagents and responses are sent back (see col. 59, line 61-col. 60, line 11).

16. As to point (c), the cited portion of the FORE-Switch-MIB definitions shows each of these features (On the first page of the FORE-Switch-MIB definitions, the name of switch is defined by RFC1213-MIB (Display String) and IP address defined by RFC1155-SMI both of which are imported into the FORE-Switch MIB module. The hardware type is defined as an MIB Group object and as is the software type.) . Such features are common to any management information base and those shown in the FORE-Switch MIB definitions are examples of that.

Conclusion

17. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Art Unit: 2142

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

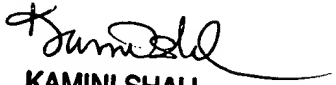
18. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas B. Blair whose telephone number is 571-272-3893. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5pm Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Harvey can be reached at 703-305-9705. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3800.

Douglas Blair
August 22, 2005

DBB


KAMINI SHAH
PRIMARY EXAMINER